

the perpetual march toward equality, that is part of our heritage as well.

Today, a new generation of Americans is reminding us that while we have traveled far on the quest for a more perfect Union, the final miles of that journey still lie ahead. The overwhelming and vast majority of these Americans on our streets are peacefully reminding us that, yes, Black lives matter. They are not asking that we destroy America; they are demanding that we be more American; that we more fully become a nation with liberty and justice for all. But it is now also clear that there are others with a different agenda who have taken to our streets as well.

They are the ones who argue that because the men who wrote our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution were imperfect and, in some cases, racists, that the Nation their words gave birth to is beyond redemption; that America cannot be improved or saved; and that therefore it must come to an end.

These radical views are not new. From the crazy professor whom no one took seriously to the nut job running for office with no chance of winning, they have operated on the fringes of our politics for decades. The difference is that, in recent years, they have begun to move out from the fringes, and now these radicals are capitalizing on a legitimate movement to force their madness even further into the mainstream. Now their violence, their vandalism, their anarchy are excused, tolerated, sometimes even celebrated by some, and their radical agenda is shielded, increasingly, from scrutiny by an emerging speech code that condemns as hate speech and as racism any criticism of these anti-lynching American radicals.

The self-proclaimed guardians of free speech in media now apologize for printing the opinions of a U.S. Senator and actively cajoled tech companies to censor conservative voices. Social media companies, which owe their very existence to freedom of expression, now threaten to block the accounts of American politicians in publications here at home, while eagerly complying with the demands of totalitarian racist regimes abroad.

Online mobs not only decide what is acceptable speech but are empowered to destroy the reputation and career of anyone they believe has violated their standards. Celebrities and large corporations are so eager to proactively shield themselves from being canceled that they raise money to bail out arsonists, but they do not raise a single cent to help the small business owners, oftentimes minorities themselves, whose life work was looted and burned to the ground by the radicals.

This radicalism, this anarchy, isn't just annoying; it is destructive, and it is dangerous. It is destructive to bedrock institutions in our country and their legitimacy in the eyes of our people.

Why would people trust public health experts who told them they had to lose their job or their business, that their kids couldn't have a graduation, that their grandmother couldn't have a funeral but are afraid to say anything about crowds of people setting fires and looting businesses?

Why would people trust local leaders who will close your business for having too many customers or threaten to arrest you for going to a park or to a church but who stand by and do nothing when a mob vandalizes a monument, tears down a statue, or takes over an entire section of a city?

Why would people trust the media that will shame them for going to the beach, for not wearing a mask in public but portrays a mob of White anarchists attacking African-American police officers as just frustrated racial justice activists?

This radicalism is also dangerous because, if it is OK for a violent mob to tear down a statue, then what is to stop another violent mob from showing up to defend it? If it is OK to set a police car on fire, what is going to stop someone upset at activist judges from burning down a courtroom? Where does it end? It will not end because there is no way to satisfy radicals who only seek destruction.

Just ask a clergy at the historical St. John's Episcopal Church. Three weeks ago, they expressed their support for and solidarity with the protesters, even after some agitator tried to burn down the church. Last night, radicals vandalized their church, calling for an autonomous zone here in Washington.

Just ask the mayor of Seattle. Just a few days ago on national TV, she was saying that the so-called autonomous zone in her city would lead to a "summer of love." Now they have announced that they are going to move in and retake the area after multiple people were shot over the weekend.

The anti-American radicals don't care about racial equality, and they will not stop as long as everyone is afraid to call them out for who and for what they are. As long as we fail to point out that those seeking racial equality and these radicals are not the same people; that the people committing this violence and carrying out this anarchy and this chaos are not the same people as the people who are rightfully asking for us to address racial inequality, as long as we fail to point that out, they will continue to hide behind this important and legitimate movement.

It is time we stop—we stop being afraid to express the common sense of Americans of every race, of every background. Yes, we must address racial inequality. Yes, Black lives must matter. But the vandalism, the arson, and the anarchy on our streets have nothing to do with this important cause.

Yes, some police departments need to be reformed, and bad police officers need to be fired. And if they committed crimes, they need to be arrested, and

they need to be prosecuted. But, no, we are not going to abolish or defund police departments.

Yes, racial disparities must be acknowledged, and they must be addressed but not by giving in to a bunch of crazy radicals who hate and want to destroy this country of ours. This is what the overwhelming majority of Americans of every race and background believe, and this is what so many are afraid to say for fear of being destroyed by an online mob and their accomplices.

For over 200 years, each generation of America has moved us ever closer to fulfilling the powerful truths upon which this Nation was founded. Now it is our turn to do the same, not by destroying America but by becoming more fully American, not by abandoning our founding principles but by moving us closer to becoming the one Nation under God with liberty and justice for all that we have pledged our allegiance to.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### NOMINATION OF CORY T. WILSON

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today in opposition to the nomination of Cory Wilson to a Mississippi seat on the Fifth Circuit. Judge Wilson has a troubling record on a number of critically important issues. That record makes clear Judge Wilson is far outside of the judicial mainstream. I believe that record is and should be disqualifying.

First, Judge Wilson has a long record of working to undermine voting rights. He has been a longtime proponent of voter ID laws—which disproportionately harm communities of color, students, voters with disabilities, and the elderly—and has made false claims about the prevalence of voter fraud.

He has likewise expressed opposition to enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and has made unsubstantiated claims that voter suppression is nonexistent. As I have noted before, Judge Wilson's troubling record on voting